

## CLAIMS:

1. An electric apparatus comprising:
  - sensor means (18) for detecting objects (34, 36) in the proximity of the apparatus (10), and
  - a directional pointing unit (20) which can be directed onto objects (34, 36) in the proximity of the apparatus (10).
2. An apparatus as claimed in claim 1, comprising:
  - at least one memory (M) for storing the position ( $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ) of objects (34, 36).
- 10 3. An apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein
  - the pointing unit comprises a mechanical pointing element which is mechanically movable in such a way that it can be directed onto objects in the proximity of the apparatus.
- 15 4. An apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein
  - the pointing unit (20) comprises a light source for generating a concentrated light beam (40), and
  - means for directing the light beam (40) onto objects (34, 36) in the proximity of the apparatus (10).
- 20 5. An apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein
  - the light source is mechanically movable.
6. An apparatus as claimed in claim 4 or 5, wherein
  - means for directing the light beam (40) comprise one or more mechanically movable mirrors.
- 25 7. An apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, comprising
  - a personification element (14) having a front side (16),

- motion means for mechanically moving the personification element (14),  
- means for determining the position of a user, and  
- control means which are constituted in such a way that they control the motion  
means in such a way that the front side (16) of the personification element (14) is directed  
5 towards the user's position.

8. An apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein  
- the pointing unit (20) is arranged on the personification element (14).

10 9. An apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, comprising  
- means for speech recognition and speech output.

10. A method of communication between an apparatus (10) and a user, wherein  
- the apparatus (10) detects objects (34, 36) in its proximity by way of sensor  
15 means (18), and  
- stores the position of objects (34, 36) in a memory (M), and aligns a  
directional pointing unit (10) with one of the objects (36).